



Dear Families,

The month of November passed by so quickly. We had a special handwashing lesson with Nurse Dunn to help keep us all healthy as we enter cold and flu season. Our learning and collaboration continues to be in full swing!



Math

We had a lot of fun learning about factors and making factor rainbows. They are now a beautiful decoration underneath the windows in our classroom. We learned how to locate

common factors and the greatest common factor in a set of numbers. Additionally, we have enjoyed lessons on prime and composite numbers. The children identified all of the prime numbers from 1-100 and we made reference charts to keep in our V.I.P. folders. We are now learning about multiples.



The children are continuing to practice their math facts in the classroom. At parent/teacher conferences, some families asked for resources to print at home. *Teachers Pay Teachers* is an excellent website with many free downloads. Here is one example of a resource that can be found on this site:

[Multiplication Practice Sheets | Mad Minutes, Multiplication Tables, and More!](https://www.teacherspayteachers.com)  
([teacherspayteachers.com](https://www.teacherspayteachers.com))

## Reading

This month we have strengthened our understanding of the three types of connections. In book-to-self connections, we connect something in a text to our own personal experiences. In book-to-world connections, we connect something in the book to something we know about in the world around us. In book-to-book connections, we connect one text to another. The students have practiced making connections in their Reader's Notebooks as well as during our literature circles. We have begun examining inferences. I shared a demonstration to introduce this new concept. The blue water represents the text evidence and the yellow water represents our prior knowledge, or schema. It's only when both components act together that one can make an inference. Thus, the green water, an inference, is formed when we locate text evidence and reflect on that evidence using our prior knowledge. We practiced this skill with a mysterious fantasy story called, The Stranger, by Chris Van Allsburg. In the end, we inferred that the stranger was Jack Frost.



## Writing

We have continued our study of opinion writing this month. We brainstormed some of our favorite things, wants for the future, and topics we feel passionate about debating. We utilized the analogy of an Oreo cookie to help us learn how to structure our opinion writing pieces. This piece of writing will become a delicious, multi paragraph work of art.



## Spelling

Your child's weekly spelling words go home each Monday and our assessments occur on Friday. Please continue to support your child in practicing their spelling words at home each night. Here are some fun ways to keep spelling practice exciting!

[45 Ways to Practice Spelling Words - Homeschool Hideout](#)

## Science

The children worked hard learning many new volcano vocabulary words this month. They defined and illustrated several key vocabulary words and crafted their own personal volcano vocabulary books. We have begun studying weathering and erosion. The students learned about the effects of root wedging and ice wedging on mountains and rocks.



## Social Studies/Micro

Congratulations to the students who completed Management 101. Three students from our class have started their own businesses this year. The students have been busy writing their resumes, attending the job fair, and applying for jobs.



## Community Building

We attended our first MACS "Balloons Over Broadway" parade on Friday afternoon. Students from our primary grades as well as some middle school students created balloons and floats and paraded down the path behind our school. This event yielded a lot of enthusiasm and school spirit. Our 206 family fills my heart with joy and love each and every day.

